

Calais Roads Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, Nov 19, 2014

at the Calais Town Office

(approved Dec 17, 2014)

Committee members present clock wise from the chair: Stephanie Kaplan (Chair), Barbara Weedon, Greg Pelchuck, Gary Schultz, Rick Kehne (Vice-Chair), and Peter Harvey (Secretary)

Committee members absent: Doug Lilley.

Selectboard representative: Rose Pelchuck

Guests: none

Nov 11, 2014 Rick, Peter, & VTrans Traffic Safety Technician Dave Crosley did a signage survey of Lightening Ridge Rd to make informal recommendation about adding, removing, moving road signs on Lightening Ridge Rd. He offered to send Rick drawings of his recommendations for several intersections on that road.

(7:13 PM) This meeting was called to order at.

Public Comments

- None

Stephanie handed out copies of the original Selectboard Charge to the Roads Advisory Committee

Stephanie reviewed that she had taken the Road Classification Map to a Selectboard meeting which approved our recommendation with the exception of the Secondary Roads, which were left unclassified for further study.

(7:18 PM) Election of officers; Peter moved the slate, the slate was approved 6-0

- Chair - Stephanie
- Vice-Chair - Rick Kehne
- Secretary – Peter Harvey

(7:22 PM) Reorganization

- Rick volunteered to read future minutes to make a list of actions taken at each meeting
- Rick volunteered to be the committee link with Toby
- Process:

- When do we go to the Selectboard and when do we go to Toby?
- Peter will send the unapproved minutes to all the members of the Roads Committee and the Town Web Site.

(7:38 PM) Approve minutes of:

- Sept 16, 2014 – approved as written 3-0-3 (abstained: Greg, Gary, Rick)
- Sept 24, 2014 – approved as written 3-0-3 (abstained: Greg, Gary, Rick)
- Oct 14, 2014 – approved as written 3-0-3 (abstained: Greg, Gary, Rick)
- Oct. 23, 2014 – no quorum, not a legal meeting, left unapproved

(7:45 PM) Review of Lightening Ridge Road site recommendations minutes & individual notes:
Sept 24, Oct 14, Nov 7, & Nov 14. Write recommendations to the Selectboard:

- Rt 14 intersection
 - Move the intersection with Rt 14 to the north to improve the sight distance into the Rt 14 dip and narrow the Lightening Ridge intersection. Greg recommended that “we” install the tall “delineator posts with reflector” to delineate the new intersection (like the Road Crew just put on at the Martin Rd & Haggett Rd intersection) and study how it works next spring, summer, & fall. We can do it in a couple of Saturday mornings.
 - Signage:
 - Leave the west bound 25 mph speed limit sign where it is (west of and beyond the school).
 - Move the west bound “pedestrian warning sign” back down the hill (east) toward Rd 14 for better visibility.
 - Move the east bound “pedestrian warning sign” east toward the school, opposite the Frank’s Farm west driveway, for better visibility.
- Gray Rd intersection
 - move the intersection eastward, down the hill to gain westward sight distance.
- Base of the long hill near Rogers cemetery
 - The deep drop to the double culvert needs better armoring with geotextile fabric and large stones to slow down erosion into the stream.
 - Large clay boil partway up the hill
- Doug Lilley’s house/farm (narrower roadway, large trees, hedge)
 - The short section of road between Doug’s house and barn across the road is a good example of how we want to design many roads in Calais for traffic calming purposes.
- Tucker Rd
 - Dave Crosley pointed out that if you follow the stone wall at the intersection, the Tucker Rd intersection had originally been much further east of where it is today.

- Move the intersection center line back where it began would greatly increase the sight distance to the west.
 - Greg pointed out that the plows always plow to the right (clockwise), because of their wings, rounding the corners, widening the radiuses of all the intersections.
- George Rd
 - Rick recommended creating a flat apron for cars coming up the hill to stop on. Currently cars coming up the steep hill and into Lightening Ridge Rd in slippery weather cannot stop because they would not have the traction to start up the hill onto Lightening Ridge Rd.
 - Cut down the old dead maple tree west of the intersection.
 - There is no easy fix.
 - Dave Crosley recommended a “side road warning sign” or “hidden side road” or “symbol sign.”
- Straightaway between Larry Smith’s and Pat Johnson’s where the road was moved with the school was built.
 - The travel portion of the road is too wide and straight. Plant grass to narrow travel portion of the road to 20 ft.
- Mike Garand to the Adamant Rd intersection
 - Rick suggested moving the intersection toward the north to create a narrow right angle “T” intersection.
 - Rick suggested studying the traffic counter speeds before and after reconfiguring the intersection; one just east of the intersection and the second one just west of Mike Garand’s.

Peter & Rick will “merge” the several “notes” on Lightening Ridge Rd. based on the Oct 14 site visit.

Traffic Counter results

- Rick will obtain and present the results of the traffic counters for Lightening Ridge Rd. at a future Committee meeting.

(8:55 PM) Other business:

- Stephanie will read over past minutes and pull out the suggestions that have been brought up at previous meetings.
- The Committee needs to follow-up on what the work that the Road Crew is doing.
- Peter & Rick are going to diagram cross sections of road that illustrate the Calais Road & Bridge Standards.
- Rose told the Committee to phone the Town Office with any complaints about the roads. Judy is keeping track of complaints and resolution of the complaints.
- West County

- The next road that the Selectboard asked this Committee to look at.
- Rick said we should be looking at these roads in the winter after we have a lot of snow on the ground. Summer is only half the problem.
- Rick said 80% of the road damage happens in 6 weeks during the spring thaw.

New Meeting times

- The 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7 to 9 PM at the Town Office

Adjourned – 9:17 PM

**The next regular meeting of the Calais Roads Advisory Committee is
Wednesday, Dec 17, 7:00 pm at the Calais Town Office**